

Prof. L. R. Jones discussed the poisonous properties of the equisetums and ferns. Although they were undoubted cases of horses being poisoned by Equisetum, the evidence showed the ferns free from any such stigma. The minor discussions centered about the new catalogue and were of unusual interest. The midsummer field meeting is to be held in Rutland on the 2nd and 3d of July.—C. D. HOWE, Univ. of Vermont.

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In *THE FOUNDATIONS OF BOTANY*<sup>1</sup> Mr. Bergen follows in the main the plan of his earlier text-book, which the present attractive volume replaces. The amount of subject-matter is increased by new experiments and observational work, and new chapters on Ecology and on Types of Cryptogams (the latter by Mr. A. B. Seymour). With a new Key and Flora, describing nearly 700 species of common spring plants, the whole matter covers some 670 pages.

Improvements in the teaching directions and many new and interesting exercises show the author's gain in the technique of botanical teaching in the years since the former book appeared. The new sections are particularly good reading, and the text as a whole has gained in vivacity and the interest due to breadth of view combined with concrete treatment. The illustrations, while not entirely original, are well selected and well executed. Mr. Bergen has given the schools a most serviceable text-book.

In case the school authorities allot but a half year to botany the good sense of the teacher (and school committee) should safeguard the pupil from the only danger which besets him in the case of a book so attractive—the danger of being hurried through a great number of observations without time for proper comprehension.—L.

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As it is now customary in binding scientific periodicals to include the covers, thus making them a permanent part of the volume, we shall be glad to furnish a correctly centered cover to replace that of our February issue which was by accident badly trimmed.

<sup>1</sup>Ginn & Co., Boston, 1901.